

# North Korea's Hwasong-18 ICBM

North Korea's Hwasong-18 intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) uses solid-fuel technology, giving it the capability to launch with relatively little preparation

## HWASONG-18

Three-stage solid-fuel ICBM, first tested in Apr 2023

### Warhead

Conventional or nuclear, possible MIRV\* capability

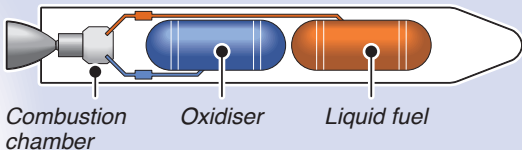
Missile range (estimated)  
**15,000km**

Length (approx): **24m**

\*Multiple independently targetable reentry vehicle

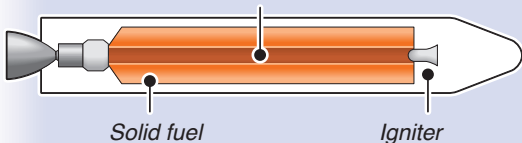
## MISSILE FUEL SYSTEMS COMPARED

► **Liquid-fuel:** Requires fuel and oxidiser to be loaded just before flight – making missile slower to launch



► **Solid-fuel:** Fuel and oxidiser bound together by hard rubbery material and packed into metal casing

*Hollow centre designed to burn from inside out*



**Solid-fuel missiles are easier to transport and quicker to launch than liquid-fuel weapons**

## Transporter erector launcher (TEL)

Hwasong-18 fired from cannister mounted on road-mobile vehicle – allows missiles to be launched from unpredictable locations

